

10/17
(26)

SELECTMENS MINUTES
September 26, 2005
7:00 P.M.

Special Executive Session beginning at 6:15 p.m.

Present: Peter Ashton, F. Dore' Hunter, Walter Foster, Lauren Rosenzweig and Asst. Town Manager and Town Manager, Meeting was televised.

CITIZENS' CONCERNS

TOM MICHALEMAN – BRUCE FREEMAN RAIL TRAIL – Tom spoke about his long email and apologized to Don for his misrepresentations in his memo. He is concerned about the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. He is working on legislation to limit liability. Tom said he had several questions in his E-mail. He would come back at the next meeting if the Board wished. He asked if the Town will be applying for CPA Money for BFRT. He further asked if we could provide a truck for brush or other items and Tom Tidman's time.

Carol Holley discussed the Micki William's Bench and what to engrave on the bench. Peter suggested that she contact the Town Manager or Dean.

22 Faulkner Hill Road Sewer Usages– Moved in to his home in May and they had 6 months of vacancy. He said his bill is too high. Peter asked that he contact the Town Manager's Office.

SEWER COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS

Peter spoke about betterment abatements and suggested a meeting on October 3, 2005. There is a religious conflict and they will pick another date. Steve Anderson spoke about timing. He said we have up until October 20th to act and if not they would be deemed denied. He spoke about the grounds for abatement. He gave the Sewer Commissioners information to consider during the upcoming hearings.

PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

OPERATIONAL MINUTE – Don reported on a Citizens question about information we provide on our web site. The gentlemen spoke about Concord's Web site, and they received it for free and we have been trying to get ours going. Maynard's Web is spotty and information relates to a matter of manpower. Our staff is unable to handle the day to day attention and would need two more people to perform those additional duties. Don noted that we have Docushare and urged them to look at what we have on the Docushare.

COUNCIL ON AGING OVERSIGHT MEETING – They spoke about how busy and a productive center they have. They work with the director and staff of COA. They meet with the Director and review finances and help to organize outreach programs to benefit Acton Seniors. They are concerned about Medicare and taxes. They had two open houses with the legislative. Major concern of Property Tax reforms. Marty Meehan came to discuss the drug Medicare program. They have over 3,000 senior citizens in Acton. At least 1,000 participate and receive the newsletter and participate in programs such as the 150 people attending their exercise class. They have 2,500 meals have been served at the Center and 55 seniors who get delivery at their homes. They have 300 people in health screenings and noted that they are free. The COA van

provides 350 trips for 90 individuals. They have gotten a cable program with a senior intern and they call themselves the Elderberry's it will be a variety of items and the Beacon is doing a big story this week. They have a Friends group who donate funds to support the programs.

They asked that we could get additional employees. Lauren complimented them on their program variety and they try to meet everyone's needs. Lauren said she is working on transportation issues. They feel the van is working well. Dore' asked about the reduction in van service and would like to see more numbers to see if we should reinstate the two days in the future.

Peter spoke about the legislation pending from last May he noted that we should release a letter writing campaign. They offered and noted that they could use associate members.

COMCAST LICENCE REVIEW HEARING (CONTINUED NOVEMBER 1st.)

Peter said that have not turned over all the reports for 04 and 05 quarterly access reports. He said he is inclined to find them in contempt of contract.

PLANNING BOARD OVERSIGHT MEETING – The Chairman of the Planning Board introduced the members in attendance. Grey Neimsky spoke about the activities they are participating in such as the 40B Joint process. Affordable housing is needed in town. Master Plan needs funding and they will ask for money in the next year. Federal Mandates have been issued to eradicating storm water issues. We need to show progress each year. They will be updating subdivision rules and regulations to bring up to date for engineering and site plans. They will also be looking at low impact subdivisions and sidewalks being moved to the street edge.

Dore' inquired if they had needs of their committee. He is concerned about the use of pavers and dripping oil on the grass and runoff. Porous Pavers may reduce runoff, but parking would have the possibility of leaking oil. Chris Schaffner commented on the pavers which can be a benefit in some cases. They are looking to allow the best practices for projects in Acton.

Walter asked about volunteer staffing of the Planning Board. They need an Associate Member to fill Stacy's Rogers vacancy. Walter asked about the upcoming articles for zoning. The Planning Board doesn't have any at this point.

Lauren thanked the Planning Board for their service to the Town. She spoke about the Storm Water regulations and different thought processes. She urged outreach and supports the revision of Master Plan. Lauren noted the To Live in Acton report and affordable housing plans. Lauren asked about GIS and asked if Engineering had that capability. Unfortunately we don't. We tried in 1999 but it failed at Town Meeting.

Peter spoke about a letter received about the enforcement of site plans and permits and asked them to look at it and the Selectmen will respond. He also spoke about the conflicting comments that were submitted and asked that we try not to have this happen again.

SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOCAL INITIATIVE PROJECT (LIP) WILLOW/CENTRAL- DORE' HUNTER - Moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the letter and application. **WALTER FOSTER – second - UNANIMOUS VOTE.** Walter said that he wanted to thank Nancy Tavernier and the neighborhood.

JONES TAVERN – Bell Choate outlined the required need for an extension for signing the restrictions. **DORE' HUNTER** – Moved to approve the extension to the 15th of November. **WALTER FOSTER** – second. **UNANIMOUS VOTE** Walter spoke about need for reimbursement in a timely basis and asked that language be put in the document for future years.

PETITION FOR SPECIAL ELECTION – Peter spoke about the timing of the request needs to be 64 days before it can be called, December 1st. Dore' noted that the law that says we cannot schedule 100 days before the annual election. Peter urged that we have an outreach program and to put it in the quarterly report as well as possibly a mailing. Walter wanted to see the banner hung since it is out of the ordinary and it would remind people to exercise their rights. Peter spoke about which day we would choose. Dec. 6 or 13th. Either would be good for Walter Foster and felt that December 6 would not interfere with the holidays. **DORE' HUNTER** – Moved to Call the Special Election we are required to have for a 3 month term, and to make arrangements for December 6, 2005, if this is not possible call it for the December 13th.. **WALTER FOSTER** – second. **UNANIMOUS VOTE**

MARTIN STREET SIDEWALK - Don outlined the sidewalk issue. Engineering will need to have drainage installed. They will work with Ann Forbes on her suggestions and come back to the Board on October 17, 2005. Lauren is in favor of going ahead, Walter and Dore' agreed. Walter, for the record wanted to be sure that we preserve the sidewalks. He reviewed the Town Engineer's letter addressed the concerns. Ann Forbes spoke about the memo from Bruce Stamski. She did not have a copy and asked for one for the neighbors.

OTHER BUSINESS

Lauren reported on her attendance at the Assabet Rail Trail ceremonies, it was well attended and it is now open beginning in Hudson.

Dore' spoke about the MBTA meeting he attended in Fitchburg. Dore' discussed the consultants report and suggestions. He further spoke about the progress on CAC and that they are close to the 75% point.

Walter spoke about the Morrison Committee. The CPC has already begun to move forward and would like to see it on the next meeting agenda.

Walter spoke about Acton Day and its great success. The Indian Hill concert was wonderful and suggested we have them for July Fourth or have a dedicated yearly date for concerts by the Indian Hill group.

Peter spoke about 2020 and also updated the Board on his meeting with Musket Drive residents and staff. He has reviewed the ALG Report and took first cut at revenue estimates for this year and will give direction to Manager and Supt. of Schools and will meet again in October. They are not looking at anything more than 3% this year. Capital Plan and the budget strain it puts on our budget.

Peter spoke about the Crown Resistance Day Ceremonies. He is hopeful this will continue and shows a renewed interest in town. Dore' felt it is an event that we should cherish as it is unique thing as our farmers banded together to fight.

Dore' announced the Public Safety Building open house and urged all to attend on October 8th.

CONSENT AGENDA

WALTER FOSTER - Moved to approve with the additional Extra Information. LAUREN ROSENZWEIG –second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

DORE' HUNTER – Moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Legal Issues and strategy. Roll Call taken, All Ayes.

Christine Joyce, Clerk

Clerk, Board of Selectmen

Date: _____

September 23, 2005

TO: Board of Selectmen, Sewer Commissioners

FROM: Peter Ashton, Chairman

SUBJECT: Selectmen and Sewer Commissioners' Report

September 26, 2005

*******6:15 P.M.*******

1. **Special Executive Session** - Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

7:00 P.M.

I CITIZENS' CONCERNS

II SEWER COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS

III PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

1. **7:01 OPERATIONAL MINUTE** – The Town Manager will give the Board a brief update on various topics.
2. **7:10 COUNCIL ON AGING OVERSIGHT MEETING** - Members of the Council on Aging will be in for their annual oversight meeting with the Board.
3. **7:45 COMCAST LICENSE REVIEW**
4. ***HEARING CANCELLED AT COMCAST'S REQUEST
RESCHEDULED TO NOVEMBER 1ST AT 7:45 P.M.***
5. **8:15 PLANNING BOARD OVERSIGHT MEETING** - Members of the Planning Board will be in for their annual oversight meeting with the Board.

IV SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

6. **AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOCAL INITIATIVE PROJECT (LIP), ACTON COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION (ACHC), WILLOW STREET/CENTRAL STREET** – Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.
7. **PETITION FOR SPECIAL ELECTION** – Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.
8. **MARTIN STREET SIDEWALK** – Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

9. **OTHER BUSINESS**

V CONSENT AGENDA

10. **ACCEPT SELECTMEN'S MINUTES** – Enclosed please find Minutes of June 6, 2005 and September 12, 2005, for Board consideration.
11. **REFINANCEING OF LOCAL INITITATIVE PROJECT (LIP) HOUSING UNIT** – Enclosed please find confidential materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.
12. **WOODLANDS AT LAURAL HILL, LLC.** – Enclosed please find a copy of the Second Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement, for Board consideration.
13. **MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR** – Enclosed please find correspondence in the subject regard, for Board consideration.
14. **APPOINTMENT OF "ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS FOR FILL ADVISORY COMMITTEE"**- Enclosed please find a memo in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

VI TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

VII EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Enclosed please find additional correspondence that is strictly informational and requires no Board action.

FUTURE AGENDAS

To facilitate scheduling for interested parties, the following items are scheduled for discussion on future agendas. This IS NOT a complete Agenda.

	January. 7 (Budget Workshop)
October 17	January 16 & 30
November 1, 14 & 28	February 13 & 27
December 12 & 19	March 13 & 27

GOALS 2004-2005

1. Produce Morrison Farm Development Master Plan (Walter)
2. NARA PARK
3. Pursue Commercial Tax Base
4. Master Plan review meeting once per year

GOALS carried forward

5. Monitor Labor Negotiations (Peter)
6. Improve Communication with Town Boards (ALL), Improving Inter Board Communication (Dore')
7. Revisit 2020 planning process for direction to make this process more beneficial towards implementation of long-term vision, and to get a first rough cut of what happens next year before school is out for the summer (Peter)
8. ALG process be used for purpose of Budget Planning for FY05 (Dore'/Peter)
9. Process Planning for "Life after NESWC
10. Middlesex Pension Alternatives (Walter)